



News Release

Your fire, Your responsibility.

Sechelt, BC – May 21, 2021 – Take a quick look at the pictures below, can you see what's wrong?



If your answer is “everything,” then you’re right. This is an excellent example of what not to do when it comes to having a beach fire. A smoking log that could cause another fire, other sources of fuel in close proximity, litter left behind, glass bottles that a young person or pet could step on. As we kick off the May long weekend, SCRD Fire Chiefs are asking that you do pretty much the opposite of what was done in the beach fire featured above.

“Every year, Fire Departments along the Sunshine Coast are called out to extinguish these types of fires,” says Matt Treit, Manager of Protective Services at the SCRD. “All we are asking is that those who are using these fires follow our advice to keep our communities and other users of our beaches safe.”

If you are planning a beach fire then please keep the following in mind:

- Your fire cannot be wider or higher than .5 metres or around 20 inches.
- The fire must ideally be located below the high tide mark
- Locate your fire at least five metres away from logs, stumps, trees and structures
- A fire must be fueled with dry, seasoned wood
- A responsible person aged 16 or over, must watch and attend to a fire. It's your fire, your responsibility. Have a bucket of water on hand to extinguish your fire if you need to

As the night closes in and it's time to go home, don't leave the fire burn. Instead, use one of the handy buckets that you have already prefilled with water to soak the fire. Then, give the fire a stir with a stick and soak it again. This will limit the risk of the fire sparking and burning when you walk away.

And this really shouldn't have to be said, but please clean up the area around your fire and don't leave garbage behind.

Campfires are allowed all year unless banned during high risk periods by the Fire Chief. Stay up to date with fire regulations in the SCRCD by visiting www.scrd.ca/fire_rescue

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